Erie County

Department of
Health

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FAST FACTS
A message for health care providers

BlueCross BlueShield
of Western New York

Independent
Health.

Emergency Preparedness/Business Continuity

The best time to plan for a disaster is before it occurs.

Preparing for uncertainty takes time, money and resources, but it trumps the alternative and is surely preferable to saying "We could and should have been better prepared."   Businesses can do much to prepare for the impact of the many hazards they face in today's world

Development of a business continuity plan includes four steps:

1. Conduct a business impact analysis to identify time-sensitive or critical business functions and processes and the resources that support them.
2. Identify, document, and implement to recover critical business functions and processes.
3. Organize a business continuity team and compile a business continuity plan to manage a business disruption.
4. Conduct training for the business continuity team and testing and exercises to evaluate recovery strategies and the plan.

There are many great resources to help you including the following:

- Model Disaster Plan for a Physician Practice
  www.kyma.org/uploads/file/Public_Resources/Disaster_Preparedness/Disaster_Plan.pdf
- FEMA Preparedness Planning for Your Business www.ready.gov/business
- FEMA Business Continuity Planning Suite – Free software created for any business with the need to create, improve, or update its business continuity plan: www.ready.gov/business-continuity-planning-suite
- CDC Emergency Preparedness for Business www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/business.html
- AMA Center for Public Health Preparedness and Disaster Response www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/public-health/center-public-health-preparedness-disaster-response.page?
- AAFP Emergency Preparedness Info
  www.aafp.org/online/en/home/clinical/disasterprep/prepare/mdresources.html

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**The Erie County Department of Health's (ECDOH) FREE Health Alert & Advisory System is an e-mail notification system designed to alert community partners about important health related information.
Sign up today at www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=node/59.**